

March 11, 2020

Dear Live Oak Families and Friends,

This is a challenging time for our local and broader communities as we respond to the impact of COVID-19. This is a rapidly evolving situation, and I want to provide updated information to the Live Oak community as it becomes available.

School Closures

Live Oak is in contact with, and following the advice and protocols of, the Sonoma County Department of Health Services and Sonoma County Office of Education. School closure is a collaborative decision between school leaders, SCOE and DHS and is a way to minimize the spread and slow transmission of the virus. As of now, there is no recommendation to close any of the schools in Sonoma County. When and/or if this changes we will notify parents/guardians immediately.

- If a student or staff member has a confirmed case of COVID-19, you can expect Live Oak to close for two weeks.
- We are exploring contingency plans for remote learning in the event of school closure. You will be informed of any such plans if the situation arises.

COVID 19 Symptoms

Please monitor your student and household members for symptoms of COVID-19 and contact the school office to report any incidence of illness. While many who have the virus may have very mild symptoms, some experience symptoms that are more severe. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, cough, and aches. The illness can progress to shortness of breath, pneumonia and related complications. Symptoms may also include nausea with vomiting and diarrhea.

Those who are more likely to experience more severe symptoms include older individuals and those with underlying health conditions. At this point, children do not seem to be particularly vulnerable to severe illness. As more data are collected on the outbreak, more information will be known as to who is most affected.

If you are experiencing any of the aforementioned symptoms, please stay home and make an appointment with your healthcare provider. For more information please visit: www.socoemergency.org

LOCS Cleaning

Live Oak is taking added precautions by having our professional cleaning service perform daily disinfecting of shared and open surfaces. As a staff we are committing to:

- Use an alternative form of non-contact greeting in the morning instead of shaking hands with each student.
- Dedicate multiple times to handwashing and/or hand sanitizing for both students and staff throughout the day.
- Provide supervision and instruction on how to wash hands including how long and why.
- Purchase extra antibacterial soap and/or hand sanitizer to have in the classrooms and bathrooms for student and adult use.

- Following PCS' model, we will be forgoing vacuuming in order to focus on cleaning frequent touch areas.

Spring Break

As spring recess approaches, we would like to remind you to please take all necessary precautions to protect yourselves and our community from this and any illness.

- People who travel outside the country will be screened upon re-entry to the United States, as determined by federal and state officials. Live Oak does not have the authority to monitor travel of our students or staff.

- If you travel to mainland China or any country with COVID-19 travel advisories during the upcoming spring break (including Iran, Italy, and South Korea), you will be subject to the above guidelines and any new guidelines that may be implemented. Visit the CDC website for a list of destinations with risk of community spread of Coronavirus.

- If you travel to any affected countries, we urge you to follow all related guidelines to support the health and safety of our community.

Talking to your children about COVID-19

Following this letter will be an article I recommend reading if you have questions about how to speak with your child(ren) about the current state of affairs with the Coronavirus.

I realize that this is a time of stress and uncertainty for the entire community and I encourage everyone to engage in self-care for yourself and your families.

Sincerely,

Justin Tomola

Executive Director